Herewith we send you the new newsletter by the iGEM-Team Aachen 2018 about our project „MELASENSE“.

**What happened so far?**

Two months ago after our team formation and a lot of research for different ideas we specified on one topic. We are developing a biosensor to measure the concentration of melatonin in the human saliva. [More about our idea.](#)

To get to know each other more, we also did some team building activities. We organized a crash course in the lab for all of us and we were seeking external opinions on our project. Since June we are working on our project in the laboratory.

**Lab Work**

About one third of our lab work is done! We already did the knock-out of melatonin synthesis with our yeast cells. Also we discussed the more precise measurement requirements.

![Image of petri dish](#)

**Outside the Lab**

In our subgroups Fundraising, Human Practice, Design, Promotion and IT we are working at full blast, too!

In the Research Center Jülich we presented our project, asked about possible measuring methods and were informed about the possibilities to develop our project there.
In an Interview with Michael Grözinger, medical specialist for psychiatry, psychotherapy and neurology we learned more about melatonin and its special properties and effects on humans.
We can now also proudly present our project name (as stated above) and our logo:

![MELASENSE Logo]

At the iGEM MeetUp in Marburg from June 22nd to 24th we met other iGEM-Teams from all over Germany and informed each other about our projects. We listened to interesting biological talks and enjoyed collective activities.

![Meeting Photographs]

We want to thank m2p, zymo research, geneious and Sparkasse Aachen for their support! Hans Hermann Voss Foundation funds us, too.

Until the next newsletter!

iGEM Aachen 2018